

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 /087 W
-----098370 081247Z /50

R 071615Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9631
INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG 25
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

CONFIDENTIAL MONROVIA 4153

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: HK, CH, PGOV, LI
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S TRIP TO CHINA

REF: MONROVIA 3553

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. THOMAS BESTMAN, COORDINATOR FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, INFORMED THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR JUNE 2 THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER T. SIAFA SHERMAN WOULD REPLACE FOREIGN MINISTER C. CECIL DENNIS, JR. ON THE TOLBERT PARTY FOR THE SUBJECT VISIT (REFTEL).

2. THE PARTY WILL TOTAL 39, INCLUDING THOSE MENTIONED IN THE REFTEL (EXCEPT DENNIS) AND SENATOR W.V.S. TUBMAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE; ROBERT ELLIS, DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE; J. TOO WILLIAMS-CASSELL, DEPUTY MINISTER OF CONFIDENTIAL

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND URBAN RECONSTRUCTION; JOHN SHERMAN, DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORTATION; ALOYSIUS H. FARRAH, ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION FOR ADMINISTRATION; ERNEST DENNIS, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, MESURADO GROUP OF COMPANIES (A TOLBERT FAMILY CONCERN CONTROLLING A SIGNIFICANT SEGMENT OF THE ECONOMY); AND RICHMOND DRAPER,

SECRETARY GENERAL, FEDERATION OF LIBERIAN YOUTH.
END UNCLASSIFIED

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3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT TOLBERT CLEARLY WISHES TO GIVE
REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL MAJOR MINISTRIES THE OPPORTUNITY
TO SEE CHINA. THE OMISSION FROM THE PARTY OF THE
PRESIDENT'S SON, A.B. TOLBERT, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND A MAJOR ADVOCATE OF
CLOSER RELATIONS WITH THE PRC, HAS PROBABLY CAUSED
CONSIDERABLE ANGUISH TO A.B. IT IS AN UNDERSTANDABLE
MOVE IN VIEW OF A.B.'S ERRATIC NATURE, HIS CERTAIN WITH
AND UNPOPULARITY WITH LIBERIANS GENERALLY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 jun 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MONROV04153
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780239-0732
Format: TEL
From: MONROVIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780687/aaaacwhq.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ec385e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MONROVIA 3553
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2456112
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S TRIP TO CHINA
TAGS: PGOV, HK, CH, LI, (TOLBERT, WILLIAM R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ec385e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014